1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

MAIN COMMITTEE I

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 11th MEETING

Held at United Nations Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 5 May 1995, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. AYEWAH (Nigeria)

CONTENTS

REVIEW OF THE OPERATION OF THE TREATY AS PROVIDED FOR IN ITS ARTICLE VIII, PARAGRAPH 3 (continued)

(a) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY RELATING TO NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY (continued)

(i) ARTICLES I AND II AND PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPHS 1 TO 3 (continued)

(ii) ARTICLE VI AND PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPHS 8 TO 12 (continued)

(iii) ARTICLE VII WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE MAIN ISSUES IN (a) and (b) (continued)

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The meeting was called to order at 11.35 a.m.

REVIEW OF THE OPERATION OF THE TREATY AS PROVIDED FOR IN ITS ARTICLE VIII, PARAGRAPH 3 (continued)

(a) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY RELATING TO NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY (continued)

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(iii) ARTICLE VII WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE MAIN ISSUES IN (a) AND (b) (continued)

1. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the draft report of Main Committee I, which had been circulated to members. After its adoption by the Committee, the report would be forwarded through the plenary Conference to the Drafting Committee of the Conference.

2. Mr. MORADI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that, to the dismay of his delegation, the draft report was not a true reflection of what had taken place in the drafting sessions. None of his delegation's proposals were reflected as submitted, and those which were included had been relocated and thus distorted. It would, therefore, be difficult for his delegation to give further consideration to the draft report.

3. Mr. EKWALL (Sweden) said that his delegation was also unable to accept the text in its current state and would have comments to make on it during the drafting session.

4. Mr. COTAN (Indonesia) said that some of his delegation's proposals had not been reflected either, although no objection had been raised when they had been put forward and the Secretariat had taken due note of them. Omission of some of the proposals submitted could prevent the Committee from reaching a consensus on the document.

5. Mr. ARCILLA (Philippines) said that he wished to know why paragraph 8 quater appeared in brackets in the draft report, since he had heard no dissent when that text had been proposed.

6. The CHAIRMAN said that the paragraph had been placed in brackets because no discussion had taken place on it; consequently, agreement could not have been reached on the text. It had not been physically possible to reflect every suggestion made, but substantive submissions had been reflected in so far as possible. Amendments could, of course, be made during the process of adopting the draft.

7. Mr. BESANCENOT (France) said that he did not believe there was a true divergence between the views of the Chairman and those of delegations.

Obviously it had not been possible to reflect the large number of proposals received, especially when it was unclear whether or not objections had been raised. The matter might best be addressed in the drafting session.

8. Mr. KAREM (Egypt) said that, regrettably, certain delegations had made official proposals which were not reflected in the draft, despite widespread support. While he commended the strenuous efforts of the Chairman and the Secretariat to finalize the document, it was nevertheless important for delegations to represent their national positions and implement directives from their Governments. Perhaps the time constraints could be noted in a footnote to the report or mentioned by the Chairman in his report to the Drafting Committee.

9. The CHAIRMAN said that any omissions had been inadvertent and were due to the difficulty of assembling the draft report and the complexity of the issues. Unless the Committee could find a way to move forward without reopening the discussion, however, it would be unable to submit its report to the plenary Conference as scheduled.

10. Mr. COTAN (Indonesia) proposed that the meeting should be suspended for one hour to allow the Secretariat sufficient time to incorporate all proposals in the draft.

11. Mr. NOBLE (United Kingdom) suggested that delegations should submit their amendments in writing in order to facilitate the work of the Chairman and the Secretariat.

12. Mr. MORADI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that although his delegation's proposals had been submitted in writing, they still had not been reflected. He strongly supported the proposal made by the representative of Egypt: his delegation could agree to continue consideration of the draft report only if a footnote stating that the draft did not include all proposals submitted by delegations was inserted on page 1, or if all its paragraphs were placed within brackets.

13. Mr. EKWALL (Sweden) noted that language which had not been accepted at the drafting session had been included in the final draft of the report.

14. Mr. SCHAERLI (Switzerland) said that the current version of the draft posed problems to his delegation as well.

15. Mr. KAREM (Egypt) proposed that the meeting should be suspended in order to allow further consultation with the officers and interested delegations.

The meeting was suspended at 12.15 p.m. and resumed at 1.05 p.m.

16. The CHAIRMAN announced that the Committee would resume its consideration of the draft report in an informal drafting session.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.